

# Make a Difference - Teach Existing Environmental Education (ECOLEARN)



Project Title	Make a Difference - Teach Existing Environmental Education (ECOLEARN)
Project Summary	Teach exciting prepared environmental education lesson plans at local elementary schools
Country	United States

## Project Description

Environmental protection and sustainability are critical issues for our youth to both understand and be able to act upon. Schools around the country are struggling to integrate the concepts into their curriculums. Often, parent volunteers are called upon to help and spend hours developing and providing a volunteer lesson in their child's classroom.

Over the past four years, we have had interns assigned to this project that have developed a set of eight 60 minute lesson plans per grade level, preschool through fifth grade, to be used by parents, students, teachers or other interested people. The interns developed and have been testing the lesson plans in local elementary schools. Topics included: Animals, Air, Water, Ecosystems, Energy, Waste, Food, and Climate Change. Students have consolidated information already available and filled in the lesson plan gaps (e.g., specify required readings, essays, activities, etc.) where needed. The students compiled the resources into a simple, easy to use format organized by grade that is broadly accessible to the users. Also the interns have created power points with audio to go with each of the lessons.

We now want to continue the testing the lesson plans more broadly, expanding our outreach and make necessary revisions to the materials.

EPA will be providing training to the selected interns on:

- 1) How to teach in the classroom
- 2) Standards
- 3) Make initial contacts with schools

The internship for this year will:

- 4) Test in one or more schools (an entire school year)
- 5) Revise the lesson plans accordingly
- 6) Develop clear time frames and materials needed
- 7) Track schedules of teaching

EPA is looking for 6 interns for this project who can teach in the following areas – within King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties of Washington State. Other interns outside of these areas can apply for this internship as long as you have an established relationship with a school near you that you can teach classes at. If you need help with connecting to a school, please contact this project's contacts above. We would like school relationships to be set up before starting the internship.

Need to be able to provide own transportation.

The interns will teach six-eight 1 hour lessons per month (preparation, teaching, follow-up, revising the lesson with other interns).

Timeframe - September 2018 to May 2019

## Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)

Educational design

## Additional Information

Regional or other specific knowledge required: education, curriculum development and environmental issues.

You must be able to pass a background test to be in schools.

Language Requirements

None

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